

# KENT COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 31, 2006

The Board of Directors of the Kent County Water Authority held a special meeting in the Joseph D. Richard Board Room at the office of the Authority on January 31, 2006.

Chairman Perry opened the meeting at 2:05 P.M. Chairman Perry, Board Members, Mr. Gallucci, Mrs. Graham, Mr. Masterson and Mr. Boyer were present together with the General Manager Timothy J. Brown, Technical Service Director John Duchesneau, System Engineer, Kevin J. Fitta, Arthur Williams, Finance Director, Legal Counsel, Joseph J. McGair, and other interested parties including West Greenwich Councilman Richard Huntsman and John Pagliarini, Esq. representing Centre of New England.

### **Work Session – Supply Deficit Condition**

The Chairman was anxious for input from the public but no one from the public was present. The Chairman stated that Kent County Water Authority was awaiting bids for the pilot treatment for the existing wells at Mishnock which should be opened 2/13/06 in order to have those wellfields back on line as soon as possible. The Chairman stated that the short term alternatives may have an estimated 24 month turnaround (e.g.). Bald Hill Road rehabilitation pumping station to increase draw.

Board Member Gallucci asked the Warwick City Solicitor to work with Kent County Water Authority Legal Counsel and the City Council lawyer to have an agreement for the February 15, 2006 Council meeting night and the concern would be that the Council meeting is on the same night as Kent County Water Authority.

The Chairman stated that it would be helpful to increase the low service gradient which concomitantly would help the high service gradient which would take two years from the time of funding approval by the PUC and bonding.

Board Member Graham asked about progress with C & E Engineering Partners, Inc. review of the DEM permit for the Mishnock expanded wellfields. The General Manager stated that C & E Engineering Partners, Inc. will have the report completed prior to the next Board meeting.

The Chairman explained that the quickest design and infrastructure project which would still take two years for additional water from the Bald Hill Tank and Board Member Masterson commended Board Member Gallucci for his hard work for the progress.

The General Manager stated that Clinton Avenue improvements will obviously allow more low service gradient water which may be able to be boosted without obstruction since obviously the bottleneck is the lack of a high service gradient connection, and there is no funding for a direct pipe.

The General Manager gave a thorough technical overview to the Board of the system water issues.

The General Manager stated that a pre-bid was completed on the piloting-filtration (two technologies) as listed by C & E Engineering Partners, Inc. and approved by the Department of Health. The bids will be opened shortly.

Board Member Masterson mentioned East Greenwich well and its pumping and sequestering.

The Chairman stated that a crisis in maximum day and fire demand is the key since there is adequate supply the rest of the year.

The Chairman stated by way of example to Centre of New England that a million gallon tank cannot be restored at night since there can be a drop of 10ft. during the day and overnight recovery would only recapture 8ft. He stated there is also a need to turn the water over since stagnation is a problem.

The General Manager stated that odd/even watering is really a demand management technique and not a source of new water.

The General Manager stated that volume storage may be sitting in the tank never to be used and only part of the volume is ever used. He stated that a ground surface reservoir will also need treatment. He reiterated that fire storage and demand at two times capacity of normal day is the real problem.

Mr. Pagliarini, Esq. (Centre of New England) mentioned that a privately funded solution for less than 4 years could help bridge the problem.

The General Manager stated that aid in construction, could get water to the new customers (business) but might be cost prohibitive. He reminded all that 15 years ago there was never any high service gradient except for the tank at Technology Park which was built by the Rhode Island Port Authority.

Board Member Masterson asked Mr. Pagliarini about the aid in construction and any viable suggestions he might have. Mr. Pagliarini stated he is now looking for solutions with others for economic development and for a public/private partnership.

The General Manager stated that there are few aquifers within the region and Kent County Water Authority does not have any control over the Big River Reservoir

and he cautioned that no one should drill a well for less than 1 million/gallons per day drawn.

Board Member Graham stated that after five years of diligent research and work, the Department of Environmental Management held up progress for the system. Board Member Graham stated that the Board as a whole has been insulted by the Department of Environmental Management as there were negotiations with three directors and nil has happened. Board Member Gallucci supports Board Member Graham's statement and he believes all alternatives need to be welcomed.

Board Member Boyer mentioned that the Department of Environmental Management should be dealt with by the legislature.

The General Manager explained that the discussions with Providence Water Supply Board could lead to a temporary booster pump with temporary lines along Wakefield Street which could lead the way for a third connection for additional low service gradient with high service gradient benefits and Providence Water Supply Board could be in partnership with the Authority.

Board Member Masterson stated that the Carr Pond aquifer was stressed and that Big River Reservoir has 8,600 acres and only 30% is for containment of the water and it can surely absorb the wildlife issues and it is the only way for the future.

The General Manager stated that Bald Hill water would be very expensive to pipe to the high service gradient and one million gallons per day for short term and two million for long term.

The Chairman stated to Mr. Pagliarini that if he is interested Kent County Water Authority could have another workshop with all of the businesses which are affected the most in order to entertain all valid ideas to avert stoppage of water service to high service gradient.

The General Manager stated there is structure at Wakefield Street which was the original plan of a 66" opening to the Big River Reservoir by Providence Water Supply Board.

Board Member Graham made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Boyer and it was unanimously,

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

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Secretary Pro Tempore